

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 10021
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

FOR COORDINATION WITH

State

FORM NO. 35-85
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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

15 JAN 53

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

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TO:

FROM:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LONDON

PRIORITY

ACTION: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1717Z 16 JAN 53

INFORMATION: FI/OPS, FI/PLANS, FI/TC, FI/RQM 3, PP/PYD 2, SR 2, WE 2, EE 2,

FI/PT 2

NAUMANN

NR: 3887

CONTROL: VR-982

SENT DEPARTMENT 3887 REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 663, PARIS 1021,
MOSCOW 177.

FOREIGN OFFICE HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING FILL-IN ON ARREST OF NAUMANN, SCHEEL, AND OTHERS IN BRITISH ZONE LAST NIGHT. SO FAR AS FOREIGN OFFICE AWARE, GROUP DID NOT (RPT NOT) HAVE A NAME AND WAS SCARCELY EVEN AN ORGANIZATION. IT WAS NOT (RPT NOT) A POLITICAL PARTY AND WAS DIFFERENT FROM EITHER THE BRUDERSCHAFT OR REMERS PARTY. IT WAS RATHER A CONSPIRACY OF A VERY SMALL NETWORK HEADED BY NAUMANN WHO WAS "THE SPIDER AT THE CENTER OF THE WEB" AND WHO WAS APPOINTED IN HITLER'S TESTAMENT TO SUCCEED GOEBBELS. THE SIZE OF THE GROUP IS UNCERTAIN; FOREIGN OFFICE REPUTABLE GUESS PUTS IT AT "PERHAPS 20, ALTHOUGH IT COULD HAVE BEEN 200". ITS PURPOSE WAS CLEARLY EVENTUALLY TO SEIZE POWER. ITS METHOD WAS TO PLANT ITS PEOPLE IN OVERT ORGANIZATION AND POLITICAL PARTIES AND TO MAKE USE OF LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE. BRITISH HAVE BEEN AWARE OF ITS ACTIVITIES FOR "BEST PART OF 2 YEARS". GROUP HAS BEEN KEEPING IN THE BACKGROUND, TRYING TO MAKE CONTACTS ALONG LINES INDICATED, BUT DURING THE LAST FEW MONTHS THEY HAVE DIRECTED THEIR CONTACTS MUCH MORE TOWARDS RESPECTABLE POLITICAL PARTIES, PARTICULARLY THE RIGHT-WING OF THE FDP.

BRITISH HAVE SECURED MOST OF THEIR INFORMATION THROUGH INTERNAL CENSORSHIP, THAT IS TELEPHONE AND LETTER INTERCEPTS. THEREFORE SUCH INDICATIONS AS THEY HAVE ABOUT ACTIVITIES OF THE GROUP ARE FAIRLY FIRM BUT NOT (RPT NOT) THE SORT OF THING WHICH LENDS ITSELF TO USE IN PROSECUTION. THEY ARE NOT (RPT NOT) EVEN SURE THAT THEY CAN PROSECUTE, AND THIS WAS ONE OF THE CHIEF REASONS FOR THEIR TAKING ACTION ON THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY UNDER ARTICLE 2 (E) OF THE OCCUPATION STATUTE RATHER THAN LEAVING IT TO THE GERMANS, SINCE THE GERMANS COULD ONLY HAVE BROUGHT COURT ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT NOT (RPT NOT) HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL. ANOTHER REASON FOR BRITISH ACTING ON THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY WAS THAT GROUP WAS "PRETTY MUCH ALL IN BRITISH ZONE". IN THIS CONNECTION FOREIGN OFFICE REPEATED THAT THEY KNOW VERY LITTLE ABOUT WHETHER GROUP WAS IN TOUCH

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DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH EASTERN ZONE OR SOVIETS, BUT POSSIBILITY CLEARLY NOT EXCLUDED.

WHEN KIRKPATRICK SAW ADENAUER LAST EVENING TO INFORM HIM IN ADVANCE OF INTENDED ACTION, ADENAUER TOOK NEWS CALMLY, SHOWED NO (RPT NO) SIGNS OF PIQUE, STATED THAT HE WAS AGREED WITH WHAT BRITISH PROPOSED TO DO, AND IN EFFECT WISHED THEM LUCK. FOREIGN OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE STATED THAT BRITISH HAD ACTUALLY ALLOWED THEMSELVES SUFFICIENT TIME LEEWAY TO CALL OFF ENTIRE OPERATION IF ADENAUER HAD RAISED A SERIOUS ROW. A THIRD REASON FOR BRITISH TAKING ACTION ON THEIR OWN RESPONSIBILITY WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATION WAS TO AVOID EMBARRASSING ADENAUER BY IN ANY WAY IMPLICATING HIM.

NEXT FOLLOWING TELEGRAM REPORTS GUIDANCE BRITISH GIVING THEIR PRESS.

GIFFORD

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ACTION: GER

INFO : SS, G, EUR, OLI, CIA, OSD, ARMY, AIR, NAVY, SAM, P, PSB, I

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